

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 01029 260947Z

20

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03

IGA-02 IO-14 SCI-06 INT-08 SAJ-01 SWF-02 COME-00

DRC-01 /145 W

----- 072412

R 260851Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1217

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 1029

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, BEXP, HU

SUBJ: GRAIN CONDITIONS IN HUNGARY

REF: STATE 078157

1. EXTRAORDINARILY DRY WINTER AND SPRING CAUSING CONSIDERABLE CONCERN IN HUNGARIAN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY REGARDING THIS YEAR'S GRAIN CROP. RAINFALL FOR PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1973 THROUGH MARCH 1974 SIGNIFICANTLY BELOW NORMAL IN ALMOST ALL AREAS OF COUNTRY, AND IN PLAINS OF EASTERN HUNGARY PRECIPITATION WAS 100KS LESS THAN TRADITIONAL AVERAGE. DURING MARCH ONLY 3 MM OF RAIN (10 PERCENT OF NORMAL) WAS RECORDED. HEAVY APRIL RAINS WHICH FOLLOWED DRY WINTERS TWO PREVIOUS YEARS HAVE NOT MATERIALIZED IN 1974. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE INFORMED EMBASSY OFFICERS APRIL 12 THAT 40 MM RAIN WOULD BE NEEDED WITHIN FOLLOWING TWO WEEKS FOR GOOD WINTER WHEAT HARVEST. WHILE NO STATISTICS AVAILABLE FOR RAINFALL DURING LAST TWO-WEEK PERIOD, IT HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN 40 MM THROUGHOUT ALL AREAS OF HUNGARY. WHILE

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EFFECTS OF INADEQUATE SOIL MOISTURE HAVE SO FAR BEEN

COUNTERACTED BY HEAVY APPLICATIONS OF FERTILIZER AT
MANY OF THE LARGER STATE FARMS, THERE ARE "REAL PROBLEMS"
ON FARMS WHERE ADEQUATE SUPPLY
S OF FERTILIZER ARE NOT
AVAILABLE, ACCORDING TO ONE LEADING HUNGARIAN FARM
MANAGER.

2. WINTER KILL IN HUNGARY APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MINIMAL
AND MINISTRY REPORTS THAT AUTUM GRAINS SURVIVED THE
MILD WINTER VERY WELL. TOTAL WHEAT AREA INILQOUR WILL
BE ABOUT ONE PERCENT HIGHER THAN 1,325,000 HECTARES
PLANTED IN 1973. EMBASSY WILL FORWARD MORE PRECISE
STATISTICS ON 1974 PLANTING AS SOON AS THESE CAN BE
OBTAINED.
PKAOSEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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